

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 SS-15

/057 W

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R 150950Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9869

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 10200

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UR, JA, PINT

SUBJECT: MOSCOW REPORTS JAPANESE ELECTIONS

REF: MOSCOW 8506

SUMMARY: SOVIET REPORTING ON JAPANESE UPPER HOUSE AND  
TOKYO MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS DENIGRATES LDP PERFORMANCE AND  
BLAMES POOR JCP PERFORMANCE ON PARTY'S ALLEGED IDEOLOGICAL  
BACKSLIDING. END SUMMARY.

1. IZVESTIYA (JULY 12) INA COMMENTARY AND PRAVDA Q  
JULY 13)

IN A LATYSHEV ARTICLE FROM TOKYO PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF  
HOW JAPAN'S LDP MANAGED TO HOLD ONTO POWER IN UPPER HOUSE  
ELECTIONS. THIS WAS DONE BY THE "TRICK" (IZVESTIYA) OR  
"MANEUVER" (PRAVDA) OF COOPTING INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES  
AFTER AN ELECTION IN WHICH, ACCORDING TO IZVESTIYA, "THE  
OVERWHELMING MAJORITY" OF VOTERS REPUDIATED THE LDP.

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PRAVDA ADDED THE NON-VOTERS TO THOSE WHO SUPPORTED  
OTHER PARTIES AND REPORTED THAT NEARLY TWO-THIRDS  
OF JAPAN'S ELIGIBLE VOTERS HAD VOICED DISAPPROVAL OF  
THE LDP.

2. BOTH NEWSPAPERS REPORT THAT THE COMMUNISTS AND  
SOCIALISTS FARED EGGAS WELL THAN IN PREVIOUS UPPER

HOUSE VOTING. THIS IS ATTRIBUTED TO "ANTI-COMMUNIST HYSTERIA" (PRAVDA), TO THE LACK OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES, AND TO SPLITTERS WITHIN THE JSP (IZVESTIYA). THE DRAMATIC DECLINE IN THE JCP'S VOTE IN SUBSEQUENT TOKYO MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IS ATTRIBUTED BY PRAVDA ON JULY 14 TO THE REPUDIATION BY THE PARTY'S LEADERS OF MARXIST-LENINIST PRINCIPLES, THEIR POLITICAL MANEUVERINGS, AND THEIR "FLIRTATIONS" WITH NATIONALIST SENTIMENTS.

3. COMMENT: PRAVDA'S ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE JCP APPEARED IN FULLER FORM IN AN UNSIGNED PRAVDA EDITORIAL OF JUNE 12 (REFTEL). MOSCOW NOW HAS TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO RUB SALT IN TO JCP WOUNDS, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE IT SEES NO PROSPECT FOR RECONCILIATION IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.  
TOON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009